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Culture Change in Practice

"Natural" Leadership



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posted by Steph Kilen at [11:22 AM](#)

"Culture Change in Practice" is our own weblog where people can become involved in a conversation about Culture Change as it is practiced by professionals in real nursing homes. Feel free to join the conversation, or post a comment about something you have learned on your journey.

<<http://www.culturechangenow.com/weblog>>

Here's a little profile of a "natural" leader:
"...alpha male Lody models compassion and leadership skills for the troop. When his good friend Kidogo was dying of heart disease, Lody carried him around, served him the tastiest morsels of food and was visibly depressed when he died.

"Lody has adopted orphans, cradling and nurturing them for weeks, and regularly assisted a blind, elderly bonobo by leading her around the enclosure. When Milwaukee acquired Brian, a troubled young bonobo who'd been abused by his father, Lody mentored him. Other troop members were disturbed by Brian's behavior and picked on him. But through Lody's intervention, Brian was accepted into the group, and it appears that he – not Lomako, the son of dominant matriarch Maringa – may end up being Lody's successor."

These paragraphs are from an article on the Milwaukee Zoo in Milwaukee Magazine which can be found at:
<http://www.milwaukee.com/currentIssue/full_feature_story.asp?NewMessageID=15298>. It just made me smile thinking about how helping others to do the right thing, that is, transformational leadership, is really easy enough and natural enough that monkeys do it! It seems that modeling leadership is actually a part of preserving the species...what it takes to survive in the wild.

